

Picks to Ponder

Title:

A School for Leadership.

Authors:

Covey, Stephen R.¹

Source:

Educational Leadership; Oct2009, Vol. 67 Issue 2, p61-66, 6p

Abstract:

The author discusses application of the ideas of his book "Seven Habits of Highly Successful People" in his experience with the A. B. Combs Elementary School in Raleigh, North Carolina. The community chose the theme of leadership for the school. The school devotes its first week to creating a leadership culture with the students, writing class mission statements, assembling individual student leadership notebooks and writing classroom codes of cooperation. The culture is set in place the first week and reinforced every day in rituals and procedures. Principles include making leadership visible, establishing traditions, and having events such as Leadership Day, Inaugural Ball, Silver-Tray Luncheon, and service projects and telling stories. It indicates results have been promising.

Title:

Educating school leaders to think and act both locally and globally.

Authors:

Townsend, Tony *tony.townsend@glasgow.ac.uk*

Source:

International Journal of Leadership in Education; Jul-Sep2010, Vol. 13 Issue 3, p335-348, 14p, 2 Charts

Abstract:

In this article the author discusses the aspects of educating school leaders on how to think and act both locally and globally and the usefulness of new technologies on educational growth. He is critical of the significant transformations occurring more frequently which affects school leadership. He mentions the consistency of the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) despite educational reform efforts as of 1970 which makes student achievement difficult to attain.

Title:

Excellent Teachers Leading the Way: How To Cultivate Teacher Leadership.

Authors:

Thornton, Holly J.

Source:

Middle School Journal; Mar2010, Vol. 41 Issue 4, p36-43, 8p, 3 Color Photographs, 1 Illustration, 1 Diagram, 1 Chart

Abstract:

The article focuses on the need to develop an action plan to be able to prevent the barriers of developing teacher leaders in middle schools as revealed in the survey in the U.S. The survey has revealed that only few schools have teacher leaders because of the lack of time to develop teacher leadership and the different perception on the structure of teacher leadership. An action plan should be developed that would contain a timeline or schedule to allow teachers create a professional learning communities (PLCs). Moreover, staff meeting has been viewed efficient to perform school improvement and changes in district policy.

Title:

Managing Tensions in Educational Organizations: Trying for a Win-Win Approach.

Author(s):

Grab, Rudi

Source:

Education Canada, v36 n1 p34-38 Spr 1996.

Abstract:

Constructive tension can be healthy for an organization. Although win-lose solutions based on adversarial strategies are common, the management of conflicts in schools should focus on win-win problem solving, which requires creativity. Identifies collaboration as the most desirable conflict resolution strategy, and discusses conflict management skills of listening, providing feedback, conceptualization, effective confrontation, flexibility, and resourcefulness. (TD)

Title:

Principle-Centered Leadership in Early Childhood Education.

Authors:

Carr, Victoria^{1,2}

Johnson, Lawrence J.^{3,4,5}

Corkwell, Connie⁶

Source:

Dimensions of Early Childhood; Fall2009, Vol. 37 Issue 3, p25-31, 7p, 4 Black and White Photographs

Abstract:

The article discusses the principle-centered leadership in early childhood education. It states that principle-centered leadership approach is a vital model for early childhood education as it supports both teachers and parents. The article discusses aspects of leadership, such as fostering communication, decision-making, and fostering respect and cooperation among staff.

Title:

What's So Hard About Win-Win?

Authors:

Bluestein, Jane¹ janebluestein@mac.com

Source:

Educational Leadership; Sep2011, Vol. 69 Issue 1, p30-34, 5p

Abstract:

The article discusses the value of the win-win mentality, a concept used in the business field, in an educational setting. The author suggests that the win-win strategy fosters a positive school environment and promotes the idea that all students should be valued, included, and respected in the classroom. She addresses several roadblocks to win-win thinking, including educators who prefer an authoritarian approach to classroom management, the prevalence of the zero-sum paradigm in education, and the negative reactions of teachers to failure. Several ways teachers can adopt the win-win mentality in their classrooms are presented, including giving students options, focusing on positive language when enforcing rules, and communicating clearly with students.

Title:

Win-Win Partnerships.

Authors:

Johnston, J. Howard^{1,2} *lacomm@aol.com*
Armistead, Lew^{3,4}

Source:

American School Board Journal; Apr2007, Vol. 194 Issue 4, p42-44, 3p, 1 Illustration

Abstract:

The article focuses on the importance of climate and communication in establishing effective partnerships between school boards and corporations, universities or local businesses. Partnerships, which teach school leaders necessary business skills, often range from providing students with mentors to offering leadership training for administrators. The climate or appearance projected by a school district as well as the communication plan devised by a district's public relations professional are critical in creating positive business partnerships. INSET: Steps to good partnerships.

Title:

Win-Win Strategies.

Authors:

Covey, Stephen R.

Source:

Training; Jan2008, Vol. 45 Issue 1, p56-56, 1p

Abstract:

The article presents questions and answers related to employee satisfaction including the creative way to train leaders on the significance of communication and recognition and the adoption of win-win strategies when others around do not grasp the concept and seemingly go for win-lose.